

RESOLUTION NO. 7128

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA, CALIFORNIA,
DESIGNATING A HISTORIC DISTRICT THAT INCLUDES
ALL PROPERTIES ON OAKLAWN AVENUE, 430 STRATTON LANE,
THE OAKLAWN PARK, THE OAKLAWN BRIDGE AND
THE WAR MEMORIAL BUILDING**

WHEREAS, Section 2.62 of the South Pasadena Municipal Code Ordinance No. 2004 ("Cultural Heritage Ordinance") authorized the Cultural Heritage Commission ("the Commission") to recommend to the City Council the designation of appropriate properties as historic districts; and

WHEREAS, a duly prepared nomination form has been prepared and submitted by the Commission to initiate a historic district designation for Oaklawn Avenue that includes: all residences and structures located on both sides of Oaklawn Avenue between Columbia Street to the north, Fair Oaks Avenue to the southeast, 430 Stratton Lane, the Oaklawn Portals at the north end of Oaklawn (at Columbia Street), wall and fence structures along Fremont Avenue and Columbia Street, the Oaklawn Avenue parkway with existing trees, the Oaklawn Bridge and Waiting Station, Oaklawn Park, and the War Memorial building (the "Oaklawn Historic District"); and

WHEREAS, the Commission has complied with the applicable provisions of Subsection (a) (3) "Designation Procedure" of the above Ordinance Section in that it visited the site, attempted diligently and in good faith to meet with the property owners, mailed notices, held a duly noticed public hearing, received public comment; and

WHEREAS, the Cultural Heritage Commission ("CHC") voted to adopt CHC Resolution No. 10-01, which is a recommendation to the City Council to approve the proposed historic district; and

WHEREAS, the City Council held a public hearing on the proposed designation on May 5, 2010 and received public testimony.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA, CALIFORNIA, DOES RESOLVE, DECLARE, DETERMINE AND ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Based on the evidence presented at the public hearing, on the evidence contained in the Staff Report, CHC Minutes and other records of proceedings, the City Council considered the applicable designation criteria contained in the Cultural Heritage Ordinance and makes the following findings:

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(a.) ***Its character, interest, and value as part of the heritage of the community:***

The historic district context for the Oaklawn historic district is residential development in the Oaklawn Park Tract in South Pasadena 1900-1912. The Oaklawn District is an excellent, representative example of upper middle class residential tract development that occurred in the San Gabriel Valley during the first decades of the 20th century. The tract's location, on the south border of Pasadena not far from Orange Grove Boulevard's "Millionaire's Row" and adjacent to the Pacific Electric Railway's Pasadena Short Line, was a key factor in the tract's promotion and development. The involvement of the Greene brothers in establishing the neighborhood's design, feeling and association was another important element in defining the uniqueness of the district. The identity of the district results from the interrelationship of its resources, which conveys a visual sense of the overall history of tract development within the City of South Pasadena and the region.

(c.) ***Its identification with a person, persons or groups who significantly contributed to the culture and development of the city, the state or the United States***

(f.) ***Its identification as the work of a person or persons whose work has influenced the heritage of the city, the state or the United States:***

The South Pasadena Realty and Improvement Company was the initial developer of the Oaklawn Park neighborhood. In 1904-05, the company hired architects Charles and Henry Greene to design gates and fences for the Columbia Street Entrance of the Oaklawn development. Soon after, in 1906, the Greenes were hired to design a bridge connecting the neighborhood to Fair Oaks Avenue over the railroad right-of-way and an accompanying waiting station for passengers of the Pacific Electric Railway.

Charles Sumner Greene and Henry Mather Greene studied architecture at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, receiving their degrees in 1891. In 1893, following apprenticeships with noted architectural firms in Boston, the brothers joined their parents in Pasadena. By the fall of 1894, the Greene brothers had opened their architectural practice. During a four-month visit to England, Scotland and Europe in 1901, Charles Greene became greatly interested in the English Arts and Crafts Movement - an interest that was to have a profound effect on the direction the firm took upon his return.

The years 1902-1910 were highly productive for the firm, with residential design the primary focus. Approximately 150 projects were completed during this period, including examples of their finest work such as the Blacker House (1907) and the Gamble House (1908). Charles and Henry Greene are widely considered to have brought high-art aesthetics and exquisite craftsmanship to the Arts and Crafts

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Movement in the early part of the 20th century. Their work continues to be exhibited worldwide and is included in decorative arts collections in museums in the United States and throughout Europe.

In 1907 local newspapers announced sale of the northern portion of Oaklawn to G. Lawrence Stimson, the son of wealthy real estate developer S.W. Stimson. Mr. Stimson's name is associated with a number of houses constructed in the northern end of Oaklawn as his name appears as the architect of record on the buildings' building permits. Stimson enjoyed a flourish architectural career in his own right, credited with design of many distinguished residences in Pasadena and South Pasadena, including the Wrigley mansion on Orange Grove Avenue in Pasadena.

(g.) Its embodiment of elements of outstanding attention to architectural design, engineering, detail design, detail, materials or craftsmanship:

The Oaklawn District represents an excellent example of upper middle class residential tract development that occurred in small cities throughout Southern California during the early decades of the 20th century. The district's architectural character is a mixture of Craftsman, Colonial Revival, Tudor Revival and English Revival styles with several dwellings exhibiting Mediterranean, Mission Revival or Prairie influences. These styles are a representative cross-section of designs popular from 1900 through 1912 as interpreted in residential architecture. Houses contributing to the district exhibit a consistently high level of architectural quality and minimal alterations.

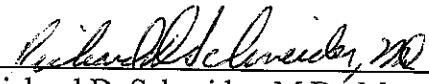
(m.) With respect to the designation of a historic district, not less than fifty percent plus one of all affected owners of the proposed historic district must consent to such designation. Each parcel or lot shall be entitled to only one vote per parcel or lot. By way of example only, if the proposed historic district were composed of twenty parcels, then eleven property owners would be required to consent to the designation:

Out of the 30 parcels in the Oaklawn Historic District, 17 property owners supported the nomination for district nomination.

SECTION 2. Based on the aforementioned findings, the City Council hereby approves the designation of the Oaklawn Historic District, along with the map as set forth in Exhibit "A" attached hereto and made a part thereof, as the official boundaries of the Oaklawn Historic District.

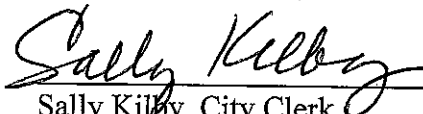
SECTION 3. The City Council directs the City Clerk to file the appropriate designation with the office of the Los Angeles Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED ON this 15th day of September, 2010.


Richard D. Schneider, M.D., Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Sally Kilby, City Clerk


Richard L. Adams II, City Attorney

I HEREBY CERTIFY the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the City Council of the City of South Pasadena at a regular meeting held on the 15th day of September, 2010, by the following vote:

AYES: Cacciotti, Putnam, Sifuentes, Ten and Mayor Schneider

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: None

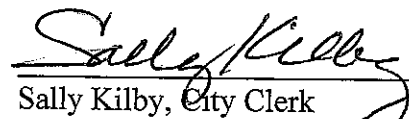
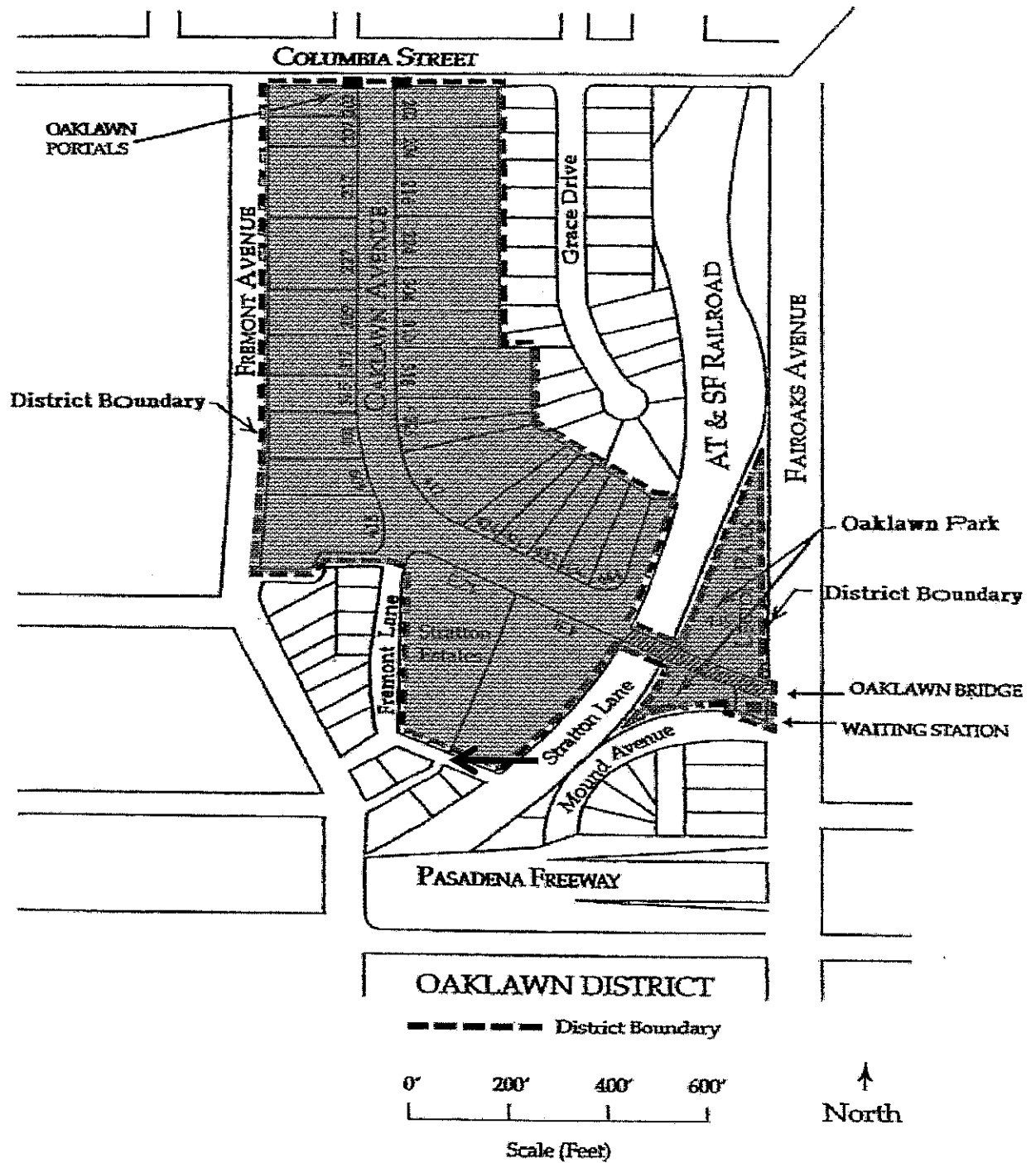

Sally Kilby, City Clerk

EXHIBIT "A"



Proposed Oaklawn Historic District